

**Madam Speaker:** Order, order. At no place in the Standing Orders does it say that Members cannot applaud at any time during the course of debate in the House. The Hon. Member must realize, therefore, that he does not have a point of order.

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[Translation]

### PRIVILEGE

#### MR. ROY—IMPOSSIBILITY OF ATTENDING ALL MEETINGS

**Mr. Marcel Roy (Laval):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I consider that my rights as a Member were breached during today's oral question period. I feel that an unfortunate precedent has been created here. I shall explain.

During oral question period, Madam Speaker, an Hon. Member, possibly with an interest in a cablevision company, was distributing in the House invitations to all Members for a special meeting at 3.30 when a television screening would be held. Following distribution of this written invitation, the Hon. Member put a question to the Minister of Communications (Mr. Fox), who is responsible for the CRTC.

Madam Speaker, Government Members have commitments, since we are involved in running this country, and we cannot attend a meeting on a few minutes' notice. However, I would not want the press to interpret the absence of some Liberal Members as a lack of interest in the problems raised in the message contained in the invitation.

I fail to see how the desired objective could be attained by this action, and I am therefore registering this complaint. In my opinion, this is a breach of the rights of the Members of this House.

[English]

**Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview-Greenwood):** Madam Speaker, on the same point, it would certainly be possible to arrange other showings of this tape for people who are not available at 3.30.

**Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain):** Madam Speaker, I understand the point made by the Hon. Member for Laval (Mr. Roy), but unfortunately he is factually incorrect. To begin with, the suggestion that my colleague, the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood (Ms. McDonald), distributed the material is incorrect. I distributed the material.

Second, I did so after consulting the House Leader for the Conservative Party and the Whip for the Liberal Party to ascertain whether they had any objection to making the invitation available to each Member during the time that the

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House was sitting. Both indicated their willingness to have the material distributed.

The invitations had previously been sent out in the in-House mail but we were afraid they might not reach each of the offices in time. I suggest to the Hon. Member that he should check his facts.

[Translation]

**Madam Speaker:** I want to make it clear to the Hon. Member that the Chief of the Distribution Office had warned the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood (Ms. McDonald) that he would not be able to have her invitations distributed by the services of the House. However, as was pointed out by some Hon. Members, the invitations were distributed by Members themselves, and I think I saw one of the pages putting them on some of the desks. Now I understand that all of this is the result of consultation among the party whips.

I must warn Hon. Members that the only way to reach Hon. Members and distribute documents is through our mail services, and I would ask Hon. Members from now on, despite any consultations that may take place among party whips, to refrain from making use of the pages and House services and also to refrain from distributing messages in the House themselves.

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### REGULATIONS AND OTHER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

#### PRESENTATION OF FOURTEENTH REPORT OF STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe):** Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present the fourteenth report of the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments, in both official languages.

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[Translation]

### MACDONALD ROYAL COMMISSION

#### TABLING OF NAMES OF THREE COMMISSIONERS OF INQUIRY

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 41(2), I wish to table the names of three new commissioners of the Royal Commission of Enquiry on the Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada.